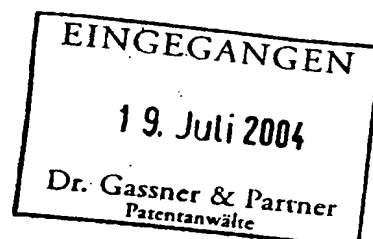


PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)



Applicant's or agent's file reference 443294GA	FOR FURTHER ACTION see Form PCT/ISA/220 as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.	
International application No. PCT/EP2004/004125	International filing date (day/month/year) 19/04/2004	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 25/04/2003
Applicant NOVEMBER AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT GESELLSCHAFT FÜR ...		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 6 sheets.

☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

- a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ The international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

- b. ☐ With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, see Box No. I.

2. ☐ **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (See Box II).

3. ☐ **Unity of invention is lacking** (see Box III).

4. With regard to the title,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the abstract,

☐ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☒ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. With regards to the drawings,

- a. the figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No. 2

☐ as suggested by the applicant.

☒ as selected by this Authority, because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

☐ as selected by this Authority, because this figure better characterizes the invention.

- b. ☐ none of the figures is to be published with the abstract.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/004125

Box No. IV Text of the abstract (Continuation of item 5 of the first sheet)

Summary The present invention relates to a device, a kit and a method for the contamination-free preparation of analyte, in particular biopolymer comprising liquids. The device comprises two chambers (2,3) having a reversibly changeable volume.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP2004/004125

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 B01L3/00 C12Q1/68 G01N1/28

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 B01L C12Q G01N

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 229 297 A (SEABERG LEONARD J ET AL) 20 July 1993 (1993-07-20) column 1, line 46 - column 2, line 57 column 3, line 33 - line 57 column 12, line 19 - line 35 column 13, line 62 - line 6 column 14, line 16 - line 21; figures 1,3 column 14, line 61 - line 68; figures 9-14 column 15, line 32 - line 39; figures 9,11,12	1
X	column 15, line 60 - line 66 column 15, line 68 - column 16, line 2 column 17, line 47 - column 18, line 27; figure 14 ----- -/--	32



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

8 document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

29 June 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

19/07/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Hocquet, A

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP2004/004125

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 4 889 692 A (HOLTZMAN MARC E) 26 December 1989 (1989-12-26) column 2, line 44 - line 53 column 3, line 63 - column 4, line 13 column 4, line 50 - column 5, line 18 -----	1
X	US 2002/018998 A1 (STEINBISS JOACHIM ET AL) 14 February 2002 (2002-02-14) cited in the application paragraph '0059!; figures 1,2 -----	1,33
A	US 4 585 623 A (CHANDLER HOWARD M) 29 April 1986 (1986-04-29) the whole document	1
X	column 3, line 38 - line 55; figure 1 -----	32
X	WO 03/031275 A (SIGNATURE BIOSCIENCE INC) 17 April 2003 (2003-04-17) paragraphs '0016!, '0028!; figures -----	1
A	US 6 197 595 B1 (FODOR STEPHEN P A ET AL) 6 March 2001 (2001-03-06) cited in the application	1
X	column 25, line 26 - column 26, line 18 -----	33
A	WO 94/26414 A (SYNTEX INC) 24 November 1994 (1994-11-24) page 13, line 3 - line 10 page 14, line 38 - line 41 page 14, line 5 - line 19 page 17, line 26 - page 18, line 19 -----	1-53
A	WO 00/75623 A (DNA RES INSTR LTD ; BAKER MATTHEW JOHN (GB)) 14 December 2000 (2000-12-14) cited in the application page 10, line 1 - line 30; figures -----	1-53
A	US 6 440 725 B1 (POURAHMADI FARZAD ET AL) 27 August 2002 (2002-08-27) cited in the application -----	
A	EP 0 687 502 A (BOEHRINGER MANNHEIM GMBH) 20 December 1995 (1995-12-20) cited in the application -----	

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-31,33-53

device comprising chambers of changeable volume

2. claim: 32

device comprising a detachable chamber filled with a reagent

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/EP2004/004125

Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☒ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/EP2004/004125

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/EP2004/004125

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